(b) The Government has launched a new Central Sector Scheme "National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF)" from October, 2004. The aims and objectives of the schemes are as under:—

(i) Capacity building through service providers.

(ii) Setting up of organic input production units namely, fruit/ vegetable waste compost units, bio-fertilizer production units and venmicuiture hatcheries.

(iii) Creation of awareness through organization of trainings, demonstrations, sernipars/exhibitions etc.

(c) ICAR is advocating greater use of eco-friendly organic fertilizers like FYM, green manure, phospho-compost, enriched/vermin compost, bio-fertilizers etc. along with soil test based judicious use of chemical fertilizers as Integrated Nutrient Management to improve soil health and its fertility.

Subsidy of drip irrigation

20. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have sought to provide 50 percent subsidy for drip irrigation to farm holdings of five hectares only as a part of its micro irrigation programme;

(b) the details of plans Government have to bring in more and more hectares of land under drip irrigation during the next ten years; and

(c) the land covered under drip irrigation in the country; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Government has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Micro Irrigation" during the year 2005-06 for implementation during the Tenth Plan under which assistance for micro irrigation is provided to the farmers @50% of the cost of the system for a maximum area of five hectare per beneficiary family.

(b) The scheme envisages coverage of 6.2 lakh hectare during the Tenth Plan Period involving drip as well as sprinkler irrigation. Besides, training and awareness generation programmes also form a part of the

scheme for educating the farmers on efficient use of water through micro-irrigation in extreme areas. Government have planned to cover an area of 17 million hectare by the end of Xlth five year plan (2011-12).

(c) The State-wise land covered under drip irrigation in the country is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

The State-wise area covered under drip Irrigation as on 31.03.2005

Sl.No.	State	Drip Irrigation (In hectare)
1.	Haryana	4219
2	Rajasthan	10025
3,	Maharashtra	219696
4.	Karnataka	114304
5.	Andhra Pradesh	111407
6.	West Bengal	110
7.	Tamil Nadu	116665
8.	Madhya Pradesh	6483
9.	Gujarat	16686
10.	Orissa	2036
11.	Uttar Pradesh	4609
12.	Punjab	4262
13.	Kerala	10559
14.	Sikkim	80
15.	Chhattisgarh	1979
16.	Goa	740
17.	Himachal Pradesh	116
18.	Arunachal Pradesh	613
19.	Assam	58
20.	Mizoram	72
21.	Uttaranchal	38
22.	Manipur	30
	TOTAL:	624789